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KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1945

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1945

Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR A. E. HALFORD, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR A. PARDOE.

COUNCILLOR T. J. BEESTON.

„ J. DICKINSON.

„ W. DICKINSON.

„ H. DOOLITTLE.

„ H. HINGLEY.

„ A. E. HOBSON.

„ G. N. P. HUMPHRIES, J.P.

„ H. MORRIS.

„ F. C. OAKLEY.

„ G. F. PRATT.

„ F. SMITH.

„ W. W. WALDRON.

„ J. C. WILSON.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH : G. J. EADY, L.M.S.S.A. (Lond.).

SANITARY INSPECTOR : R. S. PORTER, Cert. S.I.J.B., C.R.San.I.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

PUBLIC HEALTH CLERK : MISS J. E. MANTLE.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION OFFICER : J. BUNN.

INSPECTOR UNDER RURAL HOUSING SURVEY : C. G. KNOTT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kidderminster Rural District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1945.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,790
Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population, mid 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,441
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1945	...						2,860
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£58,525
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...					£254/0/6

Social Conditions.

In the main the inhabitants of the District are engaged in agricultural and kindred work, though a certain proportion are employed in industry at Kidderminster, and a number of males are employed at Iron Works in the District.

Vital Statistics.

			<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births	Legitimate	...	73	70	143
	Illegitimate	...	11	8	19
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population					17.1
Birth Rate for 1944	...	...	...	...	16.5
Birth Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	16.1

			<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Still Births	Legitimate	...	2	3	5
	Illegitimate	...	1	0	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) births					17.7
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) births, 1944					18.0

				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths	...	...	...	61	43	104
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population					...	11.0
Death Rate for England and Wales, 1944					...	17.6

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

		<i>Deaths.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis	...	0
Other Puerperal Causes		0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	18.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	13.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	52.6

There were 3 deaths of Infants under one year of age, as against 3 in 1944.

Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 46 per 1,000 live births.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	19
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	0

The total deaths registered were 104 as against 108 in 1944.

Causes of Death.						M.	F.
Typhoid Fever, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis		...	...	...	1	1
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1	—
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cancer	...	...	...	...	11	8
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.		...	...	...	6	2
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	12	14
Other Circulatory Diseases		...	...	...	4	5
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	4	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	1	—
Other Respiratory Diseases		...	...	...	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	1	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		...	...	...	—	—
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis		...	...	...	2	1
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
Congenital Debility; Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	1	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	1
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	3	—
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	4	—
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	...	7	6
Causes ill-defined or unknown		...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes :—							
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
						63	41
Average Age at Death 64 years.		Males	62.4 years.				
		Females	66.1 years.				

Zymotic Diseases.

There were two deaths from Influenza. No cases of Diphtheria occurred in the Area.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Staff.

I have the assistance and co-operation of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. S. Porter, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and of Miss J. E. Mantle as Public Health Clerk.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Worcestershire County Council Laboratories are available for the examination of clinical material, water, milk and foodstuffs, and the work is carried out by the County Analyst.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Diseases an ambulance is provided by the North Worcestershire Joint Isolation Hospital Committee. The ambulance is stationed at the Hospital and is available at all hours.

For other cases an Ambulance Service is provided by the Kidderminster Corporation.

Nursing in the Home.

There are three District Nurses in the Area, who also practise as Midwives and act as Health Visitors. A fourth District Nurse deals with a small portion of the Area, and there are also two other Midwives.

The work of these District Nurses has been very well carried out.

Infant Welfare Centres.

There are three Voluntary Infant Welfare Centres in the Area, one at Far Forest, which is held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, one at Cookley, which is held on the first Friday of each month, and one at Wolverley which is held on the first Tuesday of each month.

There are also Infant Welfare Centres at Hagley and Wribbenhall, which many children from this Area attend.

Hospitals.

The Kidderminster and District General Hospital is available for all residents in our Area.

For Infectious Diseases the North Worcestershire Joint Isolation Hospital at Hayley Green is also available.

Scabies cases are treated at the Worcestershire County Council Special Hospital for Scabies Cases at Tolladine.

Tuberculosis.

This work is undertaken by the Worcestershire County Council, who send patients requiring Sanatorium treatment to Knightwick, Hill Top (Bromsgrove) and Hayley Green. A Tuberculosis Dispensary is held every Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Kidderminster General Hospital, when Dr. Ronald Cronin attends.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Council own approximately sixty miles of water pipes, and the water in the Rural Area is supplied by :—(1) The Council's borehole at Cookley. (2) The City of Birmingham Elan Aqueduct. (3) The Stourbridge Water Board. The supply is satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity.

Proportion of Houses Supplied from Public Mains.

Direct to Houses	...	...	...	...	...	67.84 %
By means of Standpipes	...	...	...	...	...	12.63 %
Total						80.47 %

Proportion of Population Supplied from Public Mains.

Direct to Houses	...	...	...	...	...	67.74 %
By means of Standpipes	...	...	...	...	...	12.74 %
Total						80.48 %

At regular intervals throughout the year, the Sanitary Inspector submitted samples of water from the Council's borehole at Cookley for chemical and bacteriological examination by the County Analyst. Four bacteriological and chemical analyses were made, and all the samples were satisfactory.

A sample of the water supplied from the Elan Aqueduct was taken, the analysis of which showed that the source of supply and the condition of the piping was satisfactory.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Borehole water contained in a W. Qt. bottle. Marked Cookley Borehole. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on the 13th February, 1945.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically, with the following results :—

Physical Characters.	Clear.	
Odour	None.	
Deposit	None.	pH 6.8.

Chemical Examination. (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100°C)	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (Dried at 100°C)	...	...	24
Solids in Solution after Ignition	...	...	19
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	3.3
Hardness—Permanent	...	...	13
Hardness—Temporary	...	...	4
Hardness—Total	...	...	17
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.002
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	0.013
Toxic Metals	...	...	None detected
Free Chlorine on receipt	...	...	0.001

Note :—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a)	In two days at 37°C	...	...	Nil	per one m.l.
(b)	In three days at 22°C	...	...	2	per one m.l.
Coli-Aerogenes (presumptive coli) count				...	Nil per 100 m.l.
Streptococci				...	Absent.
Opinion—The sample is fit for drinking.					

(Signed)

H. E. MONK,

County Analyst and Bacteriologist.

Report of County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Tap water contained in a W. Qt. bottle. Marked Birmingham Water from Rock. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, of Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 20th September, 1945.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically, with the following results :—

Physical Characters.	Slight yellow.				
Odour	None				
Deposit	None				
	pH 9.8.				
Chemical Examination.	(Results expressed in parts per 100,000).				
Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100°)	...	...	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (Dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	...	5
Solids in Solution after Ignition	...	...	...	...	4
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	...	...	1.1
Hardness—Permanent	...	...	...	...	2.5
Hardness—Temporary	...	...	...	...	0.2
Hardness—Total	...	...	...	...	2.7
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.008
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	...	None
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	...	...	0.32
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	...	None detected
Free Chlorine on receipt	...	...	...	...	None

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a)	In two days at 37°C	...	...	2 per one m.l.
(b)	In three days at 22°C	...	...	2 per one m.l.
Coli-Aerogenes (presumptive coli)*	count	...	...	Nil per 100 m.l.
Streptococci	...	...	...	...
Opinion—	The sample is fit for drinking.			

(Signed)

H. E. MONK,
County Analyst and Bacteriologist.

Rivers and Streams.

There has been no serious pollution to rivers and streams during the year, and I am looking forward to the time when the small amount of pollution, which at present is unavoidable, may be eliminated by the proposed Sewerage Schemes.

Public Cleansing.

The scavenging is carried out by contract and is dealt with by tipping. The Sanitary Inspector has devoted much time and thought to this question. (See Sanitary Inspector's Report).

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the schools is satisfactory. The majority of the schools are connected with the Council's water supply. The acute shortage of water felt at the Hill Pool Top School, Chaddesley Corbett, has now been relieved by a new main from Bluntington.

There were no school closures during the year.

When a case occurs of a notifiable infectious disease in a house where there are school children, the school or schools which these children attend are notified and a request is made for the scholars to be excluded from school for a specified time. Diphtheria contacts have nose and throat swabs taken prior to resuming school.

H O U S I N G .

A.—STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts, including Rural Housing Survey)	... ..	687
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	741
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	... ..	687
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	741
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	... ..	529

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without the Service of Formal Notices :—

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	95
--	---	--------	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
	(a) By Owners	... ..	1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices
were served requiring defects to be remedied ... | 5 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses in which defects were
remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) | By Owners | 5 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of Owners ... | Nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance
of Demolition Orders | Nil |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms
in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms
in respect of which Closing Orders were deter-
mined, the tenement or room having been made fit | Nil |

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding.

There is, unfortunately, a very considerable degree of overcrowding in the area. This is a matter which has been brought before the Council and explained in detail.

Every effort has been made to deal with the problem and extensive schemes are being pushed forward for the building of new houses and converting and adapting such premises as are available.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------|
| (a) | Milk Supply. |
| (b) | Meat and other Foods. |

The Sanitary Inspector's Report deals with these matters.

The Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Council.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 7 cases of Scarlet Fever as against 13 in 1944. All were admitted to Hospital.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year as against six in 1944.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided free to Medical Practitioners by the Rural District Council.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The necessity for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria has been carefully explained and strongly urged upon parents throughout the area, and the response has been remarkably good.

The vast majority of children in the area have already been immunized and a further 104 children of all ages were treated during the year.

The notifiable infectious diseases are set out in the following table :—

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	66	1	None
Scarlet Fever	7	7	None
Diphtheria	None	None	None
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	None
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	None	None	None
Erysipelas	2	1	None
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	None	None	None
Pneumonia	1	None	1

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year 1945.

AGE IN YEARS.												
Disease	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Total No. of Cases
Scarlet Fever —			1			2	2		2			7
Diphtheria —												—
Puerperal Pyrexia									1			1
Pneumonia —										1		1
Erysipelas —										1	1	2
	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	3	2	1	11

Prevention of Blindness.

The Rural District Council have not taken any action under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Tuberculosis.

Ten cases were notified during the year as against seven in 1944.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—								
1—			1					
5—		1						
15—		5			1	1		
25—					1			
35—	2	1			2			
45—								
55—					1			
65—								
and upwards								
	2	7	1	—	5	1	—	—

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Venereal Disease.

I have received no information of Venereal Disease arising in or contracted from persons living in this area.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I would like to assure you that I am deeply appreciative of the very careful attention, interest and consideration which you have at all times given to the reports and problems which I have submitted to you.

It has been my pleasure, and a constant source of comfort to me, to know that any suggestion which I might put forward designed to promote some improvement in the conditions and welfare of the residents of your area, and especially so in the affairs touching the greater happiness of the children and aged people, would always receive the ready consideration and support of your Council, with such speedy and wholehearted action as might be possible.

I would also like to make known to you that the close and friendly co-operation between the officers of your Council, and the willingness and interest of the members of the clerical staff, have been of such a character as to make it possible to circumvent many difficulties which must otherwise have arisen.

I have the honour to remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE JOHN EADY,

Medical Officer of Health.

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1945

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration within the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

Number of visits made to premises re cases of infectious disease and disinfection	...	...	...	...	32
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	21
Number of library books disinfected	...	...	...	...	4
Number of library books destroyed	...	...	...	...	Nil

Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by means of disinfectant fluid and formaldehyde lamps.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Infestation in the area is very insignificant. This speaks highly for the cleanliness and general habits of the country families. Such infestations as have occurred are usually the result of tenants from bad conditions in the towns coming into the area.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The administration of the above Acts is carried out by the Worcestershire County Council. Close supervision is however kept of the food premises throughout the district. Conditions under which food is stored and prepared for sale are on the whole very good and we are fortunate in having tradesmen who are proud of their reputations.

I can say without hesitation that all persons engaged in the handling of food in the area are known to me personally and their standard of personal cleanliness is good.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Cowkeepers registered	...	...	...	...	208
Cowsheds registered	...	...	...	...	218
Producers (including Graded Milks) registered	...				196
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	15
Inspections	...	...	...	...	192
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	56
Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	11
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	Nil

CONTRAVENTIONS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Cowsheds reconditioned	...	...	...	...	5
Yards filled up and paved	...	...	...	...	2
Improvements to dairies	...	...	...	...	9
Limewashing and cleansing	...	...	...	...	89
Removal of Manure	...	...	...	...	56
Defective drainage	...	...	...	...	4
New dairies provided	...	...	...	...	9
New drainage provided	...	...	...	...	2
Water laid on	...	...	...	...	6

The cowsheds and dairies of the Kidderminster District are, on the whole, well constructed and the producers are keen to take advantage of the fact to produce wholesome milk.

Despite the difficulties experienced through shortage of labour, etc., the standard of milk produced in the area has been maintained at a high level. Great credit is due to the producers, who have had to work very hard to achieve this result.

The greatest courtesy is shown to your Officers by all concerned and every opportunity is taken by the Farmers to co-operate whenever possible. The service of notice has never been necessary as all reasonable requests are met as soon as humanly possible.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Number of unexpired licences in force	11
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	----

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register December, 1945	...	...	...	8
Inspections	...	...	...	24
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	Nil
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	Nil

Contraventions Remedied.

Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dirty Floors	...	...	...	...	...	0

CANAL BOATS.

Number of boats inspected during 1945	...	...	19
Number of boats conforming to the Acts and Regulations			19
Number of boats infringing the Acts and Regulations			Nil
Total number for which the cabins were registered			19
Total number occupying the cabins	...	...	19

Details of occupants :—

Male Adults	...	...	...	...	...	19
Female Adults	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Children of School Age	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Children under School Age	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

This work is carried out by a Private Contractor, who uses a 3-ton lorry and 2 men.

The schedule of collection covers the following Parishes :—

Wolverley.	Stone.
Churchill and Blakedown.	Broom.
Chaddesley Corbett.	

Certain emergency collections have been made in the Parishes of Kidderminster Foreign and Upper Arley.

The Council intend in 1946 to set up an efficient system employing direct labour to cover the whole of the district. It is fully realised that such a service is essential and every endeavour is to be made to give the best possible service.

Collection.

Total number of loads removed	...	...	...	484 loads.
Estimated weight	...	...	...	968 tons.

Disposal.

Churchill and Blakedown	...	...	...	234
Wolverley	...	...	...	238
Shatterford	...	...	...	12
				<hr/>
				Total 484 loads
				<hr/>

Night Soil Collection.

A weekly collection of night soil is made from Chaddesley Corbett Village.

The work is done by a Local Contractor who uses a motor lorry provided with suitable bins for the carriage of the night soil.

The Council's proposed Sewerage Scheme for the Village will render this service unnecessary, but as a temporary measure the system is as efficient as possible.

Number of Pail Closets emptied per week	78
---	-----	-----	----

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The greatest difficulties are still experienced in disposing of sewage in some parts of the area and the full fruition of the Council's proposed sewage schemes is looked forward to. It is to be hoped that nothing will hinder these schemes going forward, otherwise the position in certain areas may become a danger to the health of the public. This statement is particularly true in the Fairfield area of Wolverley, the village of Cookley and the village of Chaddeley Corbett. That the conditions in these areas are not far worse is greatly due to the industry of the inhabitants who maintain a very high standard of cleanliness under difficult circumstances.

CAMPING SITES.

Number of large sites which were used for camping purposes (approximately)	...	...	...	...	20
Number of sites in respect of which licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	Nil
Estimated number of campers resident in the area at any one time during the summer, 1945	...	...	...	...	2500
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	52

WATER SUPPLY.

General.

Number of samples submitted for analysis	...	14
Number of samples found to be unfit or unsuitable		6
Number of samples found to be fit	...	8

Council's Borehole, Cookley.

Number of samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination	4
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of samples found to be of good quality and fit for drinking	4
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The water from the Borehole shows little variation in physical character and chemical composition.

For specimens of Analyst's Reports, see Medical Officer of Health's Report.

COMPLAINTS.

Number of Complaints received	287
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Summary of Complaints.

Housing defects	81
Defective and choked drainage	62
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	144

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1945.

Particulars of Visits and Inspections are as follows :—

Number of premises inspected	...	...	...	988
Bakehouses	...	...	...	24
Canal Boats	...	...	...	19
Caravans and Moveable Dwellings			...	52
Cowsheds	...	...	...	192
Dairies	...	...	...	204
Fried Fish Premises	...	...	...	15
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	32
Overcrowding	...	...	...	75
Premises where animals are kept	...	...	...	53
Schools	...	...	...	10
Water Courses		...	...	39
Water Supply		...	...	58
Workshops	...	...	...	2
Provision of Dustbins		...	...	19
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	194

SANITARY WORK.

Interior of Houses.

Dirty Houses improved and cleansed by tenant ...	27
Verminous Houses dealt with	17

Yards and Outbuildings.

Rainwater cisterns and pumps repaired or cleansed.	7
Dirty yards and W.C.'s cleansed by tenants ...	43
Offensive accumulations removed from yards, etc.	9

Drainage.

Yard gullies cleansed by tenants	86
Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction ...	49
Defective drains repaired	31
New drains provided	13
Glazed stoneware gullies provided	17
New sink waste pipes provided, others repaired	2
Inspection chambers provided to drains	2
Overflowing cesspools cleansed and repaired ...	67
Inspection chambers repaired and provided with new air-tight covers	3
Glazed sinks provided	3
Cesspools abolished	9

Water Closets.

New Water Closets erected	2
Additional W.C.'s provided	2
Foul and obstructed W.C.'s cleansed	27
New W.C. cisterns provided, others repaired ...	18
Water Closets repaired	19
Water Closets provided with new basins and traps	3
Defective water supply to W.C.'s remedied (burst water pipes, defective ball valves, etc.) ...	95

Conversions.

Conversion of privies to W.C.'s	5
Conversion of Pail Closets to W.C.'s	11

Urinals.

Urinals cleansed and repaired	29
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Privies and Pail Closets.

New pans provided to Pail Closets	32
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Ashpits and Dustbins.

Houses provided with new sanitary dustbins	...	28
Insanitary conditions of dustbins cleansed by tenants		7
Ashpits abolished	... ..	3

Various.

Nuisances from improper keeping of animals	...	46
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed	...	7
Water courses cleansed	... ..	1
Miscellaneous nuisances dealt with	... ..	97
Nuisances on highways	... ..	2

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Infestation Order, 1943.

The Council having agreed to accept delegation of powers under the Act, it was decided to appoint Mr. J. Bunn as Destruction Officer. Appended herewith is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

No. of Visits.	Premises found to be infested.			Premises found to be not Infested.	Premises treated with Zinc Phosphide	Premises treated with Red Squill	Premises treated with Ratbane Grain
	Heavy	Medium	Light				
1095	3	15	29	897	20	17	5

Sewers.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Food, the sewers at Blakedown were treated during the year with satisfactory results.

Co-operation with other Authorities. Bewdley Borough.

The amicable arrangement whereby the services of Mr. Bunn are loaned to them when necessary, is working very satisfactorily.

Worcestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee.

The co-operation between this Committee and ourselves has been excellent and our thanks are due to all concerned.

Worcestershire Planning and Advisory Committee.

I am pleased to be able to report that this Committee has done very useful work during the year.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I express my thanks for the interest and support given me by the whole of the Council during the year.

I would also express my appreciation of the willing co-operation which I have received from the Clerk, Mr. A. S. Rew, the Surveyor, Mr. A. S. Northover, and the whole of the Council's staff.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. S. PORTER,

Sanitary Inspector.

